



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/726,884	12/03/2003	Daniel P. Edwards	35462	5366
116	7590	12/20/2005		
PEARNE & GORDON LLP 1801 EAST 9TH STREET SUITE 1200 CLEVELAND, OH 44114-3108			EXAMINER LORENCE, RICHARD M	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			3681	

DATE MAILED: 12/20/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

**Supplemental
Notice of Allowability**

Application No.

10/726,884

Examiner

Richard M. Lorence

Applicant(s)

EDWARDS ET AL.

Art Unit

3681

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to the IDS filed on March 10, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1 and 5.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 3/10/05
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date 12/15/05.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☒ Other See Continuation Sheet.

Continuation of Attachment(s) 9. Other: decision on 37 CFR 1.97(d) petition.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Mr. Ronald M. Kachmarik on December 7, 2005.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1 has been rewritten as follows:

1. A centrifugal clutch for coupling the rotational force of a driving member to a driven member, the clutch comprising hub means adapted to be secured at substantially its center to the driving member, the hub means including a plurality of arms extending substantially radially from the center of the hub means, a plurality clutch shoe means located circumferentially about the center of the hub means and slidably mounted on the arms of the hub means for movement independently of one another along the arms inwardly and outwardly of the center of the hub means, means for limiting the furthest extent to which the plurality of clutch shoe means may move outwardly of the center of the hub means along the arms of the hub means, and means for urging the plurality of clutch shoe means inwardly along the arms of the hub means toward the center of the hub means, wherein each clutch shoe means has inward and outward sides in relation to the center of the hub means,

the outward side being a greater distance from the center of the hub means than the inward side and comprising a surface adapted to engage the driven member and couple the driving member to the driven member, a passageway through the inward side of the clutch shoe means and terminating in a recess in the clutch shoe means, an arm of the hub means being located in the passageway of the clutch shoe means, and the limiting means being fixed to the outer end of the arm of the hub means and positioned in the recess when the clutch shoe means is not in engagement with the driven member, wherein the limiting means comprises an enlargement of the arm of a size sufficient to prevent the enlargement from passing through the passageway and wherein the recess in each clutch shoe means extends along the entire length of the clutch shoe means between and substantially parallel to the outward and inward sides of the clutch shoe means, and the urging means comprises a garter spring that is located circumferentially of the center of the hub means in the recess of each clutch shoe means between the bottom of the recess and the arm enlargement.

Claims 6-8 have been cancelled.

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

None of the prior art of record shows or suggests a centrifugal clutch comprising the hub means having a plurality of radially extending arms, the plurality of clutch shoes means slidably mounted on the arms for movement independently of one another, the means for limiting the furthest extent to which the clutch shoes may move outwardly,

and the means for urging the clutch shoes inwardly arranged together in the manner set forth in claim 1, and particularly wherein each clutch shoe means has a passageway through the inward side of the clutch shoe means and terminating in a recess in the clutch shoe means which extends along the entire length of the clutch shoe means between and substantially parallel to the outward and inward sides of the clutch shoe means, and the urging means comprises a garter spring that is located circumferentially of the center of the hub means in the recess.


Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Richard M. Lorence whose telephone number is (571) 272-7094. The examiner can normally be reached on Mondays through Fridays from 9:00AM to 5:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Charles A. Marmor can be reached on (571) 272-7095. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Art Unit: 3681

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


Richard M. Lorence
Primary Examiner
Art Unit 3681

Lorence/rml